



Twins trust.

We support twins, triplets and more...

Multiples in Education

Twins Trust has put this guide together to assist teaching staff as they welcome multiples into the education setting. Multiples face unique challenges in a school setting and the way these are dealt with can have a huge impact on children's experience of school. We want to be there for you and be available to answer your questions about topics that might arise day-to-day at school.

Some basic facts about multiples

It's important to understand the different types of multiples, especially if children in your class have questions. We have a simple guide on the Twins Trust website that you can refer to: [Identical or Non Identical?](#)

Identification

While it's important that the bond between multiples is not disregarded, their sense of individuality needs to be clearly recognised within a school setting. Teachers can play a key role in nurturing this.

You could do this by:

- Making sure that relevant teaching staff and students are able to tell the multiples apart (this presents different challenges depending on whether you are teaching multiples in the same or separate classes and whether they are identical or not)
- Raising awareness about the importance of using individual names, rather than collective terms like 'the twins' or 'the triplets'
- Empowering the children to correct people if incorrect names are used
- Booking separate slots for parents' evenings

Twins Trust is in regular contact with parents and has extensive knowledge about the variety of issues they face supporting their multiples' individuality. We are happy to

discuss any specific challenges you come across in your classroom and have resources we can send you.

Language and reading

Whilst many multiples show no signs of a language delay (which is usually apparent by 24 months), occasionally multiple birth children, particularly if they're male, may be slower than singletons to develop language.

Children need to be assessed individually so that their specific needs are met. We would always recommend meeting the family before the children start school to discuss each individual situation. Staff and parents need to work together to overcome any difficulties, if and when they occur.

Together or apart – separation at school

At Twins Trust, we strongly advocate that the decision as to whether multiples are separated into different classes or kept together, lies with the family. Schools should never have blanket policies on whether they separate multiples. We have plenty of resources for parents on our website to empower them to make the best decision for their multiples. We are happy to advise both parents and schools in more detail on this.



What further support does Twins Trust offer?

Twins Trust provides information and support networks for families of twins, triplets and more, highlighting their unique needs to all involved in their care. We have a wide range of services designed to support parents raising multiples. Our services include Twinline, a confidential helpline run by parents of multiples. Please see our [Supporting You](#) page for more details.

[Twin Education](#) website provides useful resources aimed specifically at teachers and schools.